

J.W.

THIS IS A TAPE RECORDING OF A CONVERSATION BETWEEN WILLIAM BONLEY
LOCATED IN DALLAS AND WILLIAM MARTIN IN THIS OFFICE AT 11:00 A.M.
ON 26, MAY, 1967.

- M. All right, you're on the air now.
- B. All right, stay with me cause you might want to comment
as I go along. What I've gotten into here so far indicates
very strongly Gehlan
to me/that Clay Shaw may well be a part of the old Gayland
from Germany
intelligence apparatus/the CIA took over in the early 1950's
to the mid 1950's.
- M. Gehlan is spelled what?
- B. Gehlen, I believe, or lan.
- M. All right, go ahead.
- B. Gehlen was the chief intelligence officer, a general,
under Hitler and he has a worldwide intelligence operation
but, of course, it is strongest in Mexico, South America
and Spain.
- M. He has or had?
- B. HAS, he still maintains it.
- M. All right.
- B. The CIA financed him, brought him out frankly, took over
their choice of his agent and his VETS and he is now
working and has been for ten years or more for the CIA.
Now Shaw's notebook has very strong Madrid, Mexican and
South American contacts in it.
- M. That's true.
- B. Now, with that background, let me tell you what I've got
here. There are four Dallas names in Shaw's notebook:
A James Weathersby who turns out to be an attorney, unmarried,
for Southern Union Gas Company. He's from Midland, He
came into Dallas in '58, '59 or '60, along in there. He's
around 35 years of age, but I haven't gotten farther into
him at this point.

B. lists
There's a Ruth Sullivan who ~~lives~~ at 3221 Amherst, I believe, and there's absolutely no record of her that I have been able to find so far.

But on two men who list in Dallas,

No. 1 Thomas Marion Cox - On this address in Shaw's note book he has maintained it up to date, that is, it was originally 3919 Simpson and ~~fixxity~~ at 3931 Dutton present Drive. Shaw corrected it to show a ~~further~~ address, apparently, at 4017C Rawlins. Now there is no record of this young man ever having lived at 4017C Rawlins but I think it is noteworthy at least that this is three houses away from Eva Grant's where Jack Ruby registered his residence in the City Directory. He didn't actually live there but he visited the apartment frequently.

All right to get on with Thomas Marion Cox. He's 27 years of age. My efforts to contact him by telephone at his parents' house met with a real strange run-around. They said he only came by there to get his mail; they didn't know where he lived; they didn't know where he worked; they didn't know anything about him. So I went last night and they were quite shaken that is the mother who was the only one there was quite shaken with my appearance. She ~~didn't~~ know that I was with your office or anything of that nature. She thought that I was checking a personnel application on which Cox had been listed as a reference. So there was no overt reasons for her to hide his whereabouts but she was apparently was because she said he was due there for dinner, but hadn't shown up.

Now, to get into his background just a little bit. I checked Dretler (Dresler) Industries, a Mr. Plevak, who is industrial relations manager ~~w~~ for Dretler Industries here in Dallas,

B. their top office over their various corporations. They broke out their personnel records for me and all the girls around the office remembered this young man especially as being very emaciated young fellow with a weird religious connection. They didn't know exactly what it was but they were under the impression it was Rosecrucian or something like that. On his applications and on his bonding company applications I found that where it comes to what language he speaks, he speaks Russian a little and he writes it very good. He worked for the Dallas News in 1962 and he worked at Dretler Industries ~~xxxxxxandxxxxxx~~ from '62 to '64 and he's now supposed, according to his mother last night, to be working for some photographer in town whose name she doesn't know. He lists photograph and gardening as his avocation. There is no indication as to how, when or why he would appear in Shaw's notebook because the economic level is at opposite ends of the pole. All right, now, there are two or three more people in town I need to see about Cox and virtually I need to run him down. I sat on his house for about two hours last night and he didn't show.

Let's get to No. 2. No. 2 is Herman O. Wilhelm Bachelman, who is listed in Shaw's address book as 224 South Hampton with a telephone number of Whitehall 2-8258. This residence and phone number for the last eight or ten years is registered to Mr. and Mrs. Werner Wilmsen. He is a cotton exchange broker in Room 303 in the Cotton Exchange Building. Now, in checking on Bachelman, I found where ~~xx~~ he had recently been divorced this year, in May of this year. So I called up his ex-wife; I was going to try to trace him back through his apartment. I found her and she was extremely shaken at my appearance. I did

This, however, I don't think would account for the extremeness with which she was shaken up. She went to the phone to call a friend and the friend turned out to be the layyer who handled her divorce suit, Frank Wright who had brought Cummings, the cab driver, to our office some while ago. Frank came over and he was effusively nice and cooperative but I got absolutely no sound information out of either of them; that is, they couldn't remember the names of any of her husband of two years friends. They couldn't remember where he had ever lived before in the City of Dallas. She did recall that she thought he had belonged to the German-American Club and to the Toastmasters' Club. But here are some pertinent things, I think, at least they fit with the theory that seems to be developing. In his reading habits, he ~~show~~ lot chose psychology and philosophy. He read an awful¹, she said, about the Third Reich, and he was an admirer, she said, of the tactics of the S.S. elite corps. ~~XXXX~~ Okay, he got into this country in 1960. Now this I got from calling Mrs. Wilmsen early this morning and representing myself to be checking a personnel application on Bachelman. She talked very easily and apparently without any hesitation or suspicion. She said he was a most unreliable young man and he owed them money. That they, in fact, had sponsored his arrival in this country from Hanover, Germany, or ~~ECH~~ Bremmen in 1960. Now this, I think, is very important. She said that he got here (and I called her back on this one to ask her what Port he had arrived in...I asked her did he stay in New York a week or so before he got here). She said he didn't go to New York; he arrived by ship in New Orleans in 1960 and he only stayed overnight and flew into Dallas. That means that

this name was probably put in the book by Shaw in 1960. It's in handwriting and not typed in. It sounds very much, in intelligence patterns, as if Shaw was a reception committee for Bachelman's arrival and he sent him on to Dallas and he put down the name of the people ... not the name of the people, but the address where he would be living and the phone number. Now he's never changed that in the book as he put it down in 1960. Neither Bachelman's ex-wife or Mrs. Wilmesen ever recall his being in New Orleans other than then.

Now, he came to work as a mail clerk for Petrofina.

Oddly enough; this other boy, Cox, was a mail clerk at the Dallas News and a mail clerk at Dretler Industries. The next job that Bachelman had was ~~xx~~ a commercial aerial photographer here and that was Squire Haskins whom I have not seen yet. This information I got just this morning and haven't had time to develop it. Being in photography, again he parallels the Cox boy. They're both 27 years of age. Cox had it as a hobby; Bachelman studied it, worked at it professionally. And both of these somewhat parallel Oswald, a typographer and photographer background. Now it looks very much to me as if this is an agent sent in here, about Oswald's age you will recall -- this is an agent sent in here and they train it. I think it's quite possible that they dropped this guy because of his weak personal habits, but you can't tell. He may have gotten his divorce on orders. Anyway, he's out of Dallas now and ~~xx~~ he's gone to, of all places, Richmond, Virginia, where he's working for a company. I have his address up there as 2000 Riverside Drive, Richmond, Virginia.

M. Does that address mean anything to you?

B. Not ~~xx~~ a thing, except that we've got some people in Shaw's book that live in Richmond.

B. contacts

Now there is no known by Shaw with this guy since he arrived in 1960. But the odds of his coming into New Orleans one night and meeting Shaw and coming on to Dallas by air the next day, are a million to one. Which I think probably indicates Shaw met him there by pre-arrangement, took down his address -- maybe he had it anyway; maybe he's the one who told him where to go. But the whole thing follows the normal pattern of bringing a young agent into a country, training him over a long range period of time because this photographic bit is extremely important to agents, both in reporting and in documentation.

Now I haven't anything beyond that of immediate importance but what I would urge is this: That I be given enough time to check 3, 4 or 5 more people in the book. I have a Jim Brooks over in Ft. Worth and it would be interesting to see how, if at all, their background and actions parallel these two that I have been able to check out.

Now, there is some probable homosexuality involved here because Cox especially is a suspect of homosexuality. He worked for Glenn of Hollywood here in Dallas which is has been described to me by my source as a nest of homosexuals. But the homosexuality aside from it, these guys being the same age and with the same general background and with the same advocation interests, I think it is very indicative when you stop and take note of the preponderance of far right-wing contacts in Shaw's notebook. Now remember that the first day here, I identified positively Lady ~~MARY~~ Diorsy in the notebook. She is the wife of a man named John DeCourcy. He is presently imprisoned in England for ~~Fascist~~ sedition. That's about as far as I've gotten on this th'

Now I would propose going to Houston where I wouldn't have any meals or motel expenses. I'd spend a couple of days or so, whatever is necessary, to check out some of these people down there and let Dallas cool off a few days. Then I would like to come back to Dallas, in a new motel, and get a fresh start under a new name and when I get back it would possibly be of advantage to us to do this: Contact this Mary Joan Anderson, the niece of the former manager of the Roosevelt. She knew me by my real name and my real job before. She is a photographer. I could backstop this and tell her that I am doing a story on the ridiculous aspects of the Garrison investigation and that the most ridiculous thing, in this magazine that I worked for, and you know which one that is, the most ridiculous thing they've seen yet is the Lee Odom bit. It occurred to me she would know Lee Odom being in bullfights, would she introduce me to him, go with me and let's do a story on him. I'll take a tape recorder, this is next week after things have calmed down. I'll take a tape recorder and we'll sit and have about a two hour conversation from which you can get his voice inflections, his reactions to questions, his attitude, the whole works.

- M. That might be a good idea. That would be something that you would do after you got back to New Orleans and would return to Dallas.
- B. Either that, or come back to Dallas from Houston. Whichever you want me to do.
- M. Well, I mean where is this girl?
- B. The girl is in Dallas.
thought
- M. ~~was~~ Oh, I see. I was thinking you said the Roosevelt and I was thinking of the local hotel.

- B. Oh no, she's in Dallas. I have her home phone number, or at least what the man who had the letter supplied me as her home phone number but I need a few days for this thing to cool down among them for her not to be ~~suspicious~~ suspicious if she knows anything about our having been up here. But anyhow she knows me under the old name and old profession and I think she would buy immediately the idea of doing a story for a national magazine and she would sell him on me since she knew me before.
- M. Right. That might be good. But this will be taking place certainly after the weekend.
- B. Oh yes.
- M. Probably the middle of next week or so.
- B. The middle of next week, Wednesday or Thursday.
- M. In that case, Jim Garrison will have had time to go over the tape and recommend whether he wants you to go ahead with it. The only thing I'm considering is the funds and that will be something he'll have to decide.
- B. Well, that's why I pointed out that when I go to Houston there won't be any expenditure in Houston.
- M. You received the money that I sent you, didn't you?
- B. Yes, thank you.
- M. Very good. All right, do you have any other comments to make while we are on tape about the earlier days you were there?*
- B. No, other than the fact that... Yes, I did want to bring out the guy that I contacted here. This guy called me at the motel and gave his name as Ted Howell. I arranged to meet him the next morning at 9:00 at Guy's Coffee Shop which is on the traffic circle on Northwest Highway going towards Irving and when I arrived I noticed several unmarked police cars; that is,, cars with State plates on them and

So we went in and talked and he showed me the letters. He has, I believe, ~~ten~~ ten letters with dates beginning early October and stretching through the second or third of December. They're addressed to the Dallas Junior Chamber of Commerce at the post office box in question. They are from various firms. Now the firms are not just in Dallas. They are in Plano and other cities around Dallas in the ^Dallas trade area.

M. The dates on them begin around when?

B. Around early October and run, the last one is dated the second or third of December.

M. In what year?

B. 1966. Now some of them are typewritten to the J.C.'s addressed and some of them are ~~written~~ by hand. At any rate, ~~each~~ he kept insinuating that I should make him a offer and I ducked the question and said that I have to call home and get permission and that I found that I couldn't reach the man I needed to get permission and I suggested that he call me later and he called that night. I put him off again. He called yesterday morning and we agreed then that I would call him at a payphone number in Irving. So I called him at that number yesterday noon and told him that we just didn't have the funds to purchase something unless we absolutely ~~as~~ knew that it was going to be very essential to our work but I urged him not to give up or destroy anything that he had but to get back in touch with us by calling Jim Alcock collect on about the fifth or sixth of June. Of course, he was miffed and said that he had already talked to another man yesterday morning about those letters so he just didn't know what he was going to do. So I left it at that

because when I left the restaurant I managed to get his license plate as he left, and the plate was LDD67. This is a Chevrolet Station wagon and is registered to Ted Coon of Ted Coon Electrical Supply Company, 1216 Manufacturing Avenue, Dallas. The number is RI 2-3158. Ted R. Coon is listed at the residence 2704 Daniels Street with a home phone of EM 8-1851. Now I believe that ~~he~~ since he used the name Ted Howell, that this is Ted Coon and, if not, is probably a close employee of Ted Coon, sufficiently close that he was able to get his car.

I suppose that's it, Bill.

- M. All right. Let me backtrack on your opening paragraph where you said something to the effect that you suspected that this had been a German net that had been dropped and picked up by the CIA. Can you support that any, Bill?
- B. Well, no more than we've got. But I think it is terrific support we've got already. We've got Lady Diorsy's husband in the pen in England. We know that there are a number of German names involved in the notebook. I've got a young German who was sponsored over here by an old German family who knew his mother. ~~He~~ She then came to them, got them to sponsor him, and ~~after~~ he fell out of their good graces. But I feel that this generally follows what I know to be patterns of intelligence operations for bringing people into countries.
- M. ~~Es~~ You had previously known of this organization.
- B. Oh yes, ~~this~~ it's a ~~plus~~ published thing, too. There's a book or two on it, you can get at the library on it. But the Gehlen operation which ~~is~~ worldwide was a big totally growing thing and was/taken over by the CIA.

- B. I have one ~~xxx~~ other asset here in Dallas. I've got my source here who was looking into the funding.
- M. Oh yes, I wanted to ask you about that. What news on the ~~funding~~ funds?
- B. Well, the news is that the man he has mentioned it to will have an answer sometime this next week. Now I strongly suspect it is actually his employer who has been out of town and is due back next week but he doesn't want me to know that it is his employer and if the money is provided, they would probably provide it in someone else's name, actually. This is just my personal feeling but I've known this guy now for a couple of years and I am able to evaluate a little bit of what he says. At any rate, he says that he will let me know sometime next week about whether to go forward and to have you come up and talk with the man that he has in mind for financing. And meanwhile he is a subscriber to a directory service here in Dallas which you can call up and use his name and they'll give you the information out of any City Directory in the United States. And I had planned when I got back to use that service to run down some of these people who are listed in Shaw's book. As far as I know, we don't have any comparable service in New Orleans and, even if we do, we are not subscribers to it, I don't imagine. SO, that was another asset in Dallas.
- M. Now you are heading back to Houston this weekend. Are you not?
- B. Yes, I'll go down there this evening probably unless, you know, there is some reason to stay further.

- M. Then you will be in touch Monday or early during the week to get Jim's evaluation of this, whether or not you are to try to go back to Dallas.
- B. I'd like actually to have his evaluation before then. If he doesn't want me to stay on in Houston and work out some of the Houston names on this list, I might as well come on back this weekend to New Orleans.
- M. Well, I don't see ~~xx~~ how that would be of any value to us. Suppose you did turn around and drive right back to New Orleans right this minute. What would you do ~~xxx~~ here over the weekend?
- B. Well, that's true, too.
- M. You may as well stay in Houston and run down what you can and be in touch with us say Monday morning. And if we need you over here then, well then he can tell you.
- B. All right. If you want me in the meanwhile, well sometime late tonight I'll get into Houston and that number is OV. 2-4638.
- M. That's your number in Houston?
- B. Right.
- M. All right, Bill, nice talking to you.
- B. If you need me later in the day, I'm not going to check out of the motel until sometime after 1:00 which is checkout hour. So just call and leave a message for me and I'll call you back. But I would like to get Jim's feelings on this approach to the thing as soon as possible so I won't waste any more time if he doesn't want to explore it.
- M. Well, let me try and get him to hear this tape.
- B. Personally, I think it's the best thing we've got so far as to who this guy Shaw associated with and why.

Remember, he kept this book seven years. And here's
a guy's name in it which he took down apparently in
1960, the night he got to New Orleans.

M. Well, let me try and get Jim to hear this tape and let
him make an evaluation of it. I'll call you as soon as
I can.

B. Righto, thanks.

M. Okay, Bill. Bye.